

**A RESOLUTION**

Councilmembers  Felicia A. Moore and Ceasar Mitchell 

A Resolution requesting that the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency, along with the City of Atlanta and Fulton County Police and Fire Departments, review its Emergency Preparedness Plan; develop a full scale evacuation Plan to move all segments of the area; reinstitute its education program to request the Committees of Public Safety and Legal Administration and Finance/Executive to facilitate a presentation to the City Council; and for other purposes

WHEREAS, in August, 2005 the United States experienced one of the worst natural disasters in its history along the Gulf Coast; and

WHEREAS, the devastation wrought by the after effects of Hurricane Katrina heightened citizens' awareness of the importance of emergency management; and

WHEREAS, the bureaucratic red tape, lack of coordination and the seemingly lack of a well-thought out plan for evacuation resulted in deaths that could possibly total into the thousands; and

WHEREAS, the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency is responsible for emergency services for Atlanta and Fulton County; and

WHEREAS, this Agency works closely with public and private organizations to develop and publish emergency preparedness plans; and

WHEREAS, emergency management is a term used to describe the steps taken by governments to plan, organize and prepare for the saving of lives, protect property and the recovery from the effects of an emergency disaster or other catastrophe; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative that the mistakes surrounding the evacuation and rescue of areas along the Gulf Coast; and

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA** as follows:

**Section 1:** That the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency, working in conjunction with the Atlanta and Fulton County Police and Fire Departments identify the various types of natural and man- made disasters and catastrophic events to which the City of Atlanta and Fulton County residents are susceptible, and assess our present level of preparedness to respond to such events.

**Section 2:** That the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency, working in conjunction with the Atlanta and Fulton Police and Fire Departments review, revise and develop, where necessary, coordinated plans and procedures to competently and promptly mobilize and respond to the occurrence of a natural and/or man-made catastrophic event in the City of Atlanta and Fulton County.

**Section 3:** That this plan specifically demonstrate both Federal, State and local multi-jurisdictional coordination and public/private collaboration, and executable full scale evacuation measures for moving the area's residents, including a plan to move those segments of the population who have no transportation and those persons in hospitals and other healthcare facilities (ambulatory and non-ambulatory), as a part of such emergency preparedness plan.

**Section 4:** That the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency, working in conjunction with the Atlanta and Fulton County Police and Fire Departments reinstitute community awareness and education programs, including the Community Emergency Readiness Training (CERT) Program, to ensure that local residents are educated, equipped and prepared to react to a catastrophic event.

**Section 5:** That the Public Safety and Legal Administration Committee, in conjunction with the Finance/Executive Committee are hereby requested to facilitate a presentation by Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management for the Atlanta City Council. Said presentation should include the Agency's Emergency Preparedness Plan, along with its available and/or anticipated funding for such Plan.

**Section 6:** That the Municipal Clerk is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Fulton County Board of Commissioners and to the Atlanta/Fulton County Emergency Management Agency.